

REMARKS

Claims 1-3 and 12-18 are presently pending in the application. Claims 1-3 are allowed. Claims 4-6 and 11 are rejected. Claims 12-18 are objected to. Claims 4-11 have been cancelled. Claims 12 and 14-18 have been amended.

Reconsideration of the objections and rejections set forth in the aforementioned Office Action is respectfully requested in view of the following remarks.

REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claim 11 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Janssen et al. (WO 01/62410 A2).

The Applicant has cancelled claim 11 and respectfully requests withdrawal of this rejection as now being moot.

REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 4-6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Marando (US 5,816,089).

The Applicant has cancelled claims 4-6 and respectfully requests withdrawal of this rejection as now being moot.

ALLOWABLE SUBJECT MATTER

Claims 1-3 are allowed. Claims 12-18 are objected to as being dependent upon rejected base claims, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of their respective base claims and any intervening claims.

The Applicant would like to thank the Examiner for indicating allowable subject matter. The Applicant has rewritten claims 12 and 14-18 in independent form. As such, the Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the objections to claims 12-18.

CONCLUSION

All of the grounds of rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. The Applicant therefore respectfully requests that the Examiner reconsider all presently outstanding objections and rejections and that they be withdrawn. It is believed that a full and complete response has been made to the outstanding office action, and as such, the present application is in condition for allowance.

If it is believed that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at (248) 641-1222. Prompt and favorable consideration of this amendment is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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